

**State Executive Council (SEC) for Children's Services
Executive Committee
VIRTUAL MEETING
1604 Santa Rosa Road
Richmond, VA 23229
August 20, 2020**

Attending Virtually

The Honorable Daniel Carey, M.D., Secretary of Health and Human Resources (Chair)
The Honorable Mary Biggs, Member, Montgomery County Board of Supervisors
Valerie Boykin, Director, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)
Courtney Gaskins, Ph.D., Director of Program Services, Youth for Tomorrow
Samantha "Sam" Hollins, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent, Department of Special Education and Student Services, Division of School Quality, Instruction and Performance for James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Education (DOE)
Karen Kimsey, Director, Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)
The Honorable T. Montgomery "Monty" Mason, Member, Virginia Senate
Mira Signer, Chief Deputy for Community Services for Alison Land, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS)
Duke Storen, Commissioner and Nanette Bowler, Deputy Commissioner of Human Services, Department of Social Services (VDSS)
Scott Reiner, Executive Director, Office of Children's Services (OCS)
Marsha Mucha, Administrative Assistant (OCS)

Welcome, Introductions and Opening Comments

Secretary Carey called the virtual meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone. He noted the purpose of the Executive Committee is to provide a conduit for communication of business to be brought before the SEC and to discuss and/or recommend agenda items for SEC meetings. The Executive Committee generally meets in the month prior to regularly scheduled SEC meetings.

Scott Reiner reported that the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires public bodies holding electronic meetings to make available to the public a public comment form. He provided the link for the form in the chat section of the virtual meeting. He noted that, in accordance with virtual meeting requirements, the meeting was being recorded.

Mr. Reiner conducted a roll call of the membership for attendance purposes.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 21, 2020 meeting were approved on a motion by Courtney Gaskins seconded by Mary Biggs and approved by roll call vote as follows: Courtney Gaskins, Karen Kimsey, Duke Storen, Mary Biggs, Mira Signer, Sam Hollins, Valerie Boykin and Secretary Carey.

Public Comment # 1

There was no public comment.

Survey of Private Providers

Courtney Gaskins reported that, at the June SEC meeting, members received a report of an OCS conducted survey of local CSA programs regarding operations during the pandemic. At that meeting, she and Amanda Stanley suggested a similar survey of private providers.

A survey was disseminated to private providers through OCS by way of CSA coordinators and CPMT Chairs. Also, Dr. Gaskins, Ms. Stanley and Greg Peters disseminated the survey through their private provider organizational memberships. 307 responses were received during the 30-day period the survey was available. Responses were received from programs providing a wide range of services, with all regions of the state represented. An analysis of the survey results will be presented at the September SEC meeting.

Implementation of the SEC Strategic Plan

Mr. Reiner provided an update on implementation activities to date:

- SLAT has two workgroups currently meeting and working on the following projects:
 - Development of a guide for youth and families regarding access to services
 - Defining core knowledge, skills and abilities for various local CSA roles (e.g., CSA Coordinators, CPMT and FAPT members)

The SLAT Chair will provide an update at the SEC's September meeting.

- In support of outcome driven practices, Mr. Reiner reported that OCS is in the process of surveying state agencies concerning their collection and reporting of outcomes data. Surveys are due back by September 15. A summary and next steps will be discussed at the December SEC meeting.
- Mr. Reiner is identifying members for the SEC Policy Review and Alignment Workgroup. Of particular importance is finding someone to serve/consult with the Workgroup on an equity-based focus/perspective to the policy review work. The Workgroup will also include SEC members and/or staff members to support a deliberate, intentional review process.
- Collaborative activities continue toward the establishment of an Evidence-Based Center of Excellence. Mr. Reiner reported that multiple agencies, utilizing existing resources, are working in coordination with an institution of higher education in this regard.

At the end of Mr. Reiner's report, several members offered to share existing equity tools that are currently in development to assist the SEC Policy Review and Alignment Workgroup. Both Mary Biggs and Valerie Boykin thanked Mr. Reiner for his on-going work on implementation of the SEC's Strategic Plan.

Status of Appointments to Vacant SEC Seats

Mr. Reiner reported that the SEC has two local government vacancies. Nominations have been submitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office from VACo and VML and appointments are pending.

Agenda Items for September 10, 2020 SEC Meeting

During discussion of the upcoming meeting, members decided to extend the meeting beyond 90 minutes, if necessary, to accommodate the agenda and to provide a 10-minute break during the meeting.

In addition to the status report on implementation of the SEC's Strategic Plan, and the report on the Private Provider Survey, other items include a status report on implementation of the Family First Preventions Services Act and a status report on behavioral health enhancement.

Mr. Reiner will present and/or report on the following items in his report at the September meeting:

- Presentation of a FAQ on "Protected" State Pool Funding prepared by OCS. He noted that the SEC (*September 2018*) had requested that SLAT review the use of non-mandated funds, including barriers to use of the funds, and best practices. At the December 2019 SEC meeting, SLAT presented the findings and recommendations of their study to the SEC. One of the short-term goals was the development of specific training and informational materials for CSA audiences, which resulted in the FAQ.
- Presentation of the final FY2020 CSA Training Summary.
- Report on the CSA Annual Conference which will be held virtually on October 29 and 30. The keynote speaker will be the Commonwealth's Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Dr. Janice Underwood.

As suggested by Executive Committee members, other topics for the agenda include an update on return to school (private and public schools) and the effect of the pandemic (including economic downturn, school closures, etc.) on child protective services.

Mr. Reiner will reach out to those asked to provide updates/reports.

Public Comment Period # 2

There was no public comment.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.